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P.S. Give Franky a father's thanks for his  
letter to me. I have seen but no number of the Lib-  
erator since I left. Tell Franky I will be ready to  
confer with him in the coming week, Dec. 1st, as he is to reach  
St. Louis on Saturday morning.

Springfield, Nov. 24, 1865.

Dear Wife:

I have just arrived here, and am un-  
der the roof of my friend Mr. Herndon, who  
has put into my hands welcome letters from you  
and dear Franky, by which I am relieved of all  
anxiety as to home matters. In your crippled  
state, you must not fatigue yourself in writ-  
ing to me, glad as I am to get your letters, with  
their home intelligence.

My last letter, I believe, was written to  
you at Princeton. On Tuesday, I went to Gales-  
burg, and had a fine audience, and was much  
pleased with the place. On Wednesday evening,  
I lectured in Quincy to another highly respectable  
and numerous audience. The town is on a high  
bluff on the Mississippi river, and one of the  
finest and most business-like in the State. I  
was most hospitably entertained by John  
Van Dorn, Esq., who, for thirty years, has been  
a staunch abolitionist, and looks all manner

13 Am pleased to hear that dear Fanny is getting some weekly presents.



of perils in the face in sheltering and succoring  
multitudes of fugitive slaves; for, in times past,  
Lynch was almost as pro-slavery and mobocratic  
as any part of the South. He gave me an ex-  
tended ride around the town, and thus enabled  
me to see its position and development. I was  
introduced to a considerable number of the lead-  
ing citizens, (among them ex-Governor Wood, who  
has a palatial residence of the first class,) and  
treated with marked courtesy and respect. Be-  
fore the rebellion, I could not have spoken there  
without exciting mob violence.

Yesterday, I came to Jacksonville, a  
place I had not down in my lecturing programme;  
but I was fortunately able to address the people in  
the handsomest hall I have yet seen in the State,  
that will seat fifteen hundred persons. Although  
the meeting was got up hurriedly, and there was  
but very little time to give notice of the lecture,  
I had a large audience, the very élite of the place,  
the President, <sup>(Sturtevant,)</sup> Professors and students of the College,  
a strong array of young ladies from two or three  
large seminaries, judges, lawyers, physicians,

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13 I shall send to Wendell a hundred dollars, and \$50 for him, and \$50 for Lucy, the  
spent in purchasing such property as I shall deem fit.

merchants, clergymen, &c. At the close of my  
lecture, I was warmly congratulated by many, and  
the platform was crowded with persons eager to  
take me by the hand. I had a protracted hand-  
shaking with the young ladies of the seminaries,  
or colleges as they are called, who filed before me in  
regular procession. Am I not in danger of getting  
spoiled? Of course, you will not be jealous!

I had to leave Quincy before three o'clock in  
the morning, in order to reach Jacksonville in season;  
which was the only time I have yet had to start  
at an unreasonable hour.

Take it as a whole, beauty of location, neat-  
ness of appearance, and cosy and handsome residences,  
Jacksonville is the handsomest town I have seen on  
my western tour. It has a large infusion of the  
New England element, and also of Kentucky and Mis-  
souri settlers, and before the war was bitterly copper-  
head in its politics. It has an immense and  
handsome State asylum for the insane, another for  
the deaf and dumb, and a retreat for idiots, and  
is well provided with colleges and schools. It also  
abounds with trees, shrubbery, and gardens. I



was indebted to a young student for an extended ride through and around the town. I stopped at a hotel kept by a Kentuckian, Col. Dondup, but he "don't know how to keep a hotel." Every thing was done in a lazy, slipshod manner.

I am now suffering from a violent and sudden attack of ophthalmia in my right eye, which is prevalent at the West this season, and which makes reading and writing very painful. I ought to be confined to a dark room for some time, as it may prove very troublesome in the future. It makes the eye look as well as feel badly. I fear it may necessitate my recalling some of my appointments. Dr. Reed, a homeopathic physician at Jacksonville, kindly supplied me with Arnica, Mercurius, &c., without charge, by the use of which I may get relieved.

I checked my trunk at Quincy for this place, but on arriving here cannot find it. There is another depot here, and possibly it may be there; but I fear it has been left at some way station.

I am to lecture here to-morrow (Saturday) evening, and on Sunday evening take the night train for Lafayette.

Give remembrances to the dear household - to Harry, if at home - to Daniel and Lucy, the Board - Mrs. Cannon, &c. Ever yours, W. L. G.